

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and further examination are requested. This amendment is supplemental to the amendment filed November 3, 2009. Upon entry of this supplemental amendment, claims 28 and 31 are amended, leaving claims 28-54 pending with claims 28 and 31 being independent. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 33-35, 37-47 and 49-54 contain allowable subject matter.

Interview

Applicants appreciate the interview granted by Examiner Snelting in this application. In the interview, the Examiner indicated that if Applicants amended independent claims 28 and 31 to recite the elements in the preamble of each of these claims as structural elements in the body of the claim, the claims of this application would be allowable over the cited prior art.

Applicants submit that claims 28 and 31 have been so amended.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claim 28 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tateyama et al. (US 6,152,677).

Applicants submit that claim 28 as now pending is allowable over the cited prior art. In particular, claim 28 recites a component feeder system comprising a wafer feeding plate for feeding wafer feed components to be mounted on a board, a tray feeding plate for feeding tray feed components to be mounted on the board, the tray feeding plate configured to have a component feeding tray having a plurality of the tray feed components placed thereon and the wafer feeding plate configured to have a wafer having a plurality of the wafer feed components placed thereon, while allowing the wafer feed components and tray feed components to be mounted.

As discussed with the Examiner, since the elements of the preamble are now structural limitations in the body of claim 28, the cited prior art fails to disclose or render obvious claim 28 and its dependent claims.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 29-32, 36 and 48 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tateyama in view of Moore (US 3,766,638).

Claims 29 and 30 are allowable for the reasons set forth above, since each of these claims is dependent from claim 28 and Moore fails to overcome the deficiencies of Tateyama.

Independent claim 31 and its dependent claims are allowable for similar reasons to those set forth above. Namely, claim 31 recites a component feeder system comprising a wafer feeding plate for feeding wafer feed components to be mounted on a board, a tray feeding plate for feeding tray feed components to be mounted on the board, the feeding tray configured to have a component feeding tray having a plurality of the tray feed components arranged thereon and the wafer feeding plate configured to have a wafer having a plurality of the wafer feed components arranged thereon, while allowing the wafer feed components and tray feed components to be mounted.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all of the claims now pending in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action are respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe there are any remaining issues that must be resolved before this application can be allowed, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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